

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL**

May 15, 2002

ATTENDEES:

Joseph E. Jozefczyk, Braddock District
Kevin J. Fay, Dranesville District
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District
Dick Combs, Lee District
Steven Saulnier, Alternate, Lee District
Barbara R. Lowrey, Mason District
Wesley M. Viilo, Mt. Vernon District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Patricia Junkin, Springfield District
David Lacey, Sully District
Ralph Wills, Alternate, Sully District
J. Marcelo Gangotena, Diversity-At-Large
Jerry Carter, Town of Herndon
Roger Sims, Fairfax County Baseball/Softball Council
George Ehling, Fairfax County Girls' Fast Pitch Softball
Sharon Sealock, Alternate, Fairfax County Adult Softball Council
C. McClain Haddow, Fairfax County Youth Basketball
John Nolan, Fairfax County Soccer Advisory Council
Tricia Johnson, Fairfax County Volleyball Council
Sally Entlich, Fairfax County Women's Sports Programs
Timothy White, Fairfax County Park Authority
Patricia Franckewitz, Fairfax County Community and Recreation Services
Karen Avvisato, Fairfax County Community and Recreation Services
Kristen Cigler, Fairfax County Community and Recreation Services

ABSENTEES:

Elizabeth Bradsher, Member-At-Large
Laura Harrington, Town of Clifton
Carl Coan, Fairfax County Adult Softball Council
Mark Meana, Football Board of Commissioners
Richard Miller, Fairfax County Lacrosse Council
Richard C. Thoesen, Fairfax County Park Authority
Kaye Kory, Fairfax County School Board

GUESTS:

John Pitts, Manager, Project Management Branch, FCPA
Bruce Patrick, Coordinator, Programs and Activities, FCPS
Paul Jansen, Director Student Activities, Robinson High School
Kirk Holley, Manager, Planning and Land Management, FCPA

Meeting Opening – Mr. Lacey opened the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Mr. Leff called the roll.
A quorum was present.

Transfer of Athletic Services to the Park Authority – Mr. Lacey discussed the letter from the Park Authority Board regarding the transfer of the Athletic Services Division of CRS to the Park Authority. Mr. Lacey said the letter states that the Park Authority wants to delay the transition for one year and revisit it at that time. After a brief discussion, Mr. Nolan made a motion that, in light of the Park Authority Board memo asking to delay the transfer until after a one-year transition period, the Athletic Council agrees to this. Ms. Johnson seconded. During discussion, Ms. Junkin said she did not see any advantage to the County for services, saving money, or streamlining Athletic Services until the Park Authority, Fairfax County Public Schools, and Athletic Services could have a better means of communication. Mr. Nolan withdrew his motion. There was additional discussion as to the future of Athletic Services. If it were transferred to the Park Authority, Mr. McLaughlin said his committee was very concerned about its effectiveness. Mr. Haddow moved to take a non-binding blind straw vote/poll to determine if the Athletic Council is in favor of or in opposition to the transfer. Mr. McLaughlin seconded. The motion carried. The straw vote/poll was taken by roll call vote: Nine members opposed the transfer; four members were in favor of the transfer; four members abstained.

Mr. Lacey called a five-minute recess.

Presentations

Fairfax County Public Schools Community Use – Mr. Bruce Patrick, Coordinator, Programs and Activities, FCPS, gave a presentation on community use of public school issues. Mr. Patrick stressed that the schools do not want to use any more fields than it needs. He stated that the spring season starts the last Monday in February, and this date is mandated by the state. He also stated that he needs to know if any of his groups' damaged fields are traditionally used by community groups. His discussion centered on the high schools' needs for the community use of fields, mainly in the early spring.

Park Authority Presentation on Field Development – Mr. John Pitts, Manager, Project Management Branch, Fairfax County Park Authority, introduced Policy 109, Athletic Field Development, to the Council. Mr. Pitts explained that this policy applies to new field development only and to Park Authority property only. It does not apply to other publicly owned land. Mr. Nolan asked why the land not owned by the Park Authority is not given to the Park Authority to develop, but rather it may be given to a community group for development. Mr. Pitts and Mr. White asked for comments from the Council to be e-mailed or forwarded to Mr. Pitts.

Administrative Items - Adoption of minutes is deferred until next month's meeting.

Chairman's Report - Mr. Lacey told the Council that there would be a special meeting to discuss the new field allocation policy next Wednesday, May 22. He explained that all previous written comments about the policy were addressed. Mr. Lacey asked that any

comments on this policy be e-mailed to CRS by Monday, May 20. Mr. Sims suggested, and the Council agreed, that the policy be approved first by section, then as a complete document.

Committee Reports

Subsidy Committee – Mr. Leff said that the committee has had ongoing meetings and it hopes to have a completed report within the next two meetings.

Needs Assessment – Ms. Lowrey said that their committee is gathering information and numbers from the sports organizations. Mr. Kirk Holley, Fairfax County Park Authority, said the Park Authority was trying to make an extra effort to get the correct number of organized sports users at park fields. He also said that he needs to know the breakdown of ages and groups within the sports organizations so they can use this to compare it to the type of fields that are available. Mr. Viilo raised the question about the use of the data relating to the ongoing sports subsidy working group. Mr. Nolan responded by stating that the data was an excellent source. He also stated that soccer was using the formatted subsidy charts, and that the first three columns of the charts developed by CRS, for the sports subsidy need to be used. Mr. Nolan recommended that the other youth sports do the same.

Matters of Interest

Board of Supervisors – Nothing to report

Fairfax County Public Schools – Nothing to report

Fairfax County Park Authority – Mr. White said that the Holmes School improvement project was going forward due to the quick response by the Athletic Council.

Community and Recreation Services – Ms. Franckewitz reported that they did get the subsidy money from the Board of Supervisors, but lost \$49,000 in custodial money for gym custodians. She also stated that gyms will be in short supply this summer.

Nominating Committee – Mr. Nolan presented the slate of officers as follows:

Chairman:	Dave Lacey
Vice Chairman:	Barbara Lowrey
Secretary:	Jerry Carter

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harold Leff
Acting Secretary